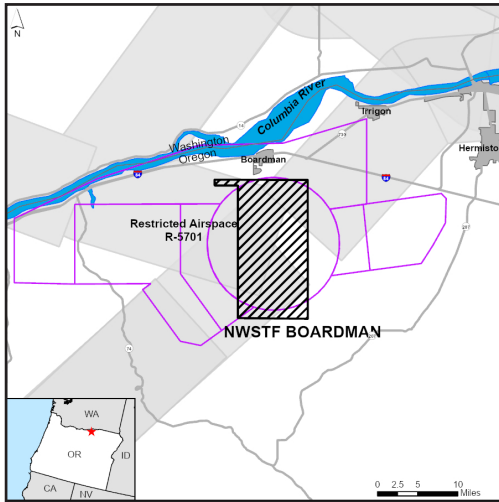




NAVAL WEAPONS SYSTEMS TRAINING FACILITY BOARDMAN

The 47,000-acre Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility (NWSTF) Boardman remains a vital training range and its larger area of restricted airspace, military operations area, and military training routes are located amid open farmland just south of the Columbia River in Morrow County, Oregon.



This combination of land and airspace provides a strategically important venue for training with the EA-18G airborne electronic attack aircraft. With the airspace extending vertically from the ground up, it is the only viable training area available for naval aviators from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Washington, to conduct low altitude tactical training with these aircraft.

However, development of tall structures, particularly wind turbines and transmission lines, under the restricted airspace presents a significant threat to the safety and combat readiness of airborne

electronic attack crews. Therefore, the Navy's goal is to protect working farmlands and ranches adjacent to NWSTF Boardman and under the restricted airspace from development pressures while sustaining the low altitude tactical training mission.

Additionally, lands in this area are bisected by the Oregon Trail, a valuable historic and cultural resources, and support habitat for the Washington ground squirrel, a candidate for listing under the Endangered Species Act. By providing habitat for the ground squirrel, the Navy alleviated on ground training conducted by the Oregon National Guard at NWSTF Boardman. Protecting existing agricultural land uses provides critical wildlife habitat, preserves significant cultural and historic resources, and protects the military training mission.



EA-18G aircraft from NAS Whidbey Island require unobstructed, flat terrain for low-altitude airborne electronic attack training (top). Wind energy turbines as tall as 500 feet present a significant threat to that training mission (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Northwest Rangeland Trust
- Trust for Public Lands
- U.S. Department of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves open space, agricultural land, and water rights
- Provides habitat for at-risk species
- Protects historic and cultural resources

MILITARY

- Improves operational safety by reducing obstructions to low level flights and impacts to radar line of site
- Supports multiple Military Service(s) missions

CONTACT

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FAST FACTS FROM FY 2017 THROUGH FY 2023 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	8	24,152	\$26.0 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding